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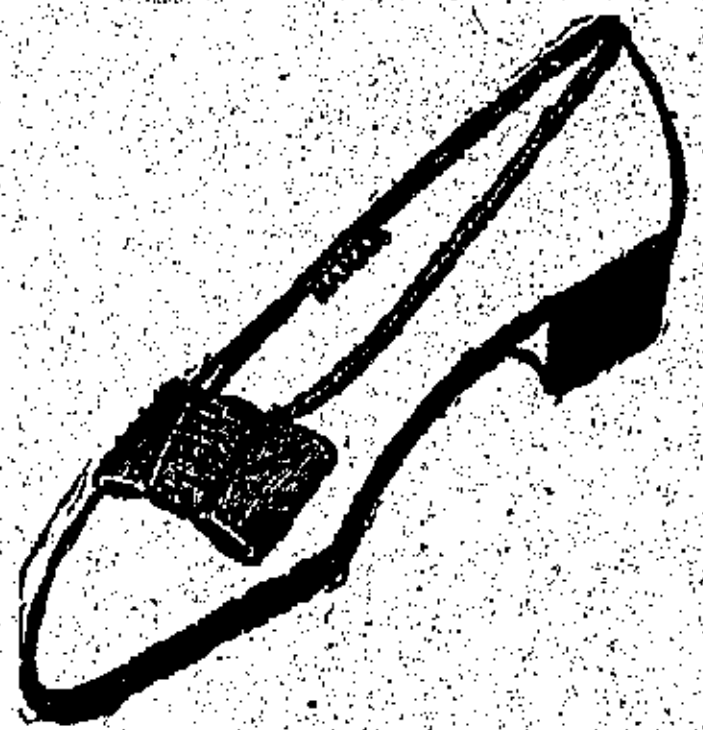
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[188]

THE GRESSON STREET
AFFRAY.ONE OF THE MISCREANTS BEFORE
THE MAGISTRATE.CONTINUATION OF THE STORY OF
THE SEARCH.

The hearing of evidence in the Gresson Street murder charge was resumed at the Hongkong Magistracy, before Mr. J. R. Wood, yesterday, when Ng Hing was charged with being concerned with others in the murder of Inspector M. O'Sullivan, Sergeant Clarke, and a Chinese detective, at No. 6, Gresson Street, on January 22nd.

Dr. McKenny, Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, said:—The prisoner came to the Hospital on the day that the tragedy at Gresson Street occurred. He had a bullet wound through the upper lip on the right side. This bullet had entered the upper jaw and had broken the palate. He also had a bullet wound at the lower extremity of the breast-bone. This launched into the chest, just near the back-bone. There was also a wound in the foot. I operated on the patient to remedy the condition of the jaw, which was in a bad condition; also to find out whether there was any injury to the liver. The patient was kept in Hospital for some time and, after recovery, was discharged on the 1st of last month and sent into the Gaol Hospital.

Asked if he desired to put any questions, the prisoner replied in the negative, and complained of feeling pain in the stomach.

Dr. McKenny said defendant had not complained of pain during the last fortnight. He was in bed, of course. It was possible that, due to the exertion of walking, he might feel giddy.

The Chinese detective, Chang Kam, continuing his evidence of the previous day, said:—When Inspector Sim arrived he asked me, "Which house, which house?" He then asked me for the revolver, but I refused to give it to him. Shots were still being fired in No. 6. Inspector Sim then walked away. Whilst he was walking away there were two other reports. I remained watching from 11.25 to 11.40 a.m., when a number of Police arrived from the Central Station. I pointed out the house to Ho Hung and the others, saying, "This is the house." The door of the ground floor of No. 6 was pushed open and they went in. I then went into the room. The prisoner was still lying in the street. Shots were still being fired, but we did not see anybody injured. I told the others: "It is not safe for us to stay here as firing is still going on." Sergeant Murphy instructed me and Hoi Kung to arrest the prisoner and take him to the station. We carried the man to the Praya East, and, putting him into a ricksha, escorted him to No. 2 Police Station, where I gave him into the charge of Sergeant Cotton.

DESCRIPTION OF SCENE.

Sun Tai, another Chinese detective, said:—On January 22nd, I went with a party of Police to No. 6, Gresson Street, arriving there at 11 a.m. The party consisted of eleven—two European officers and nine Chinese. The Europeans were Inspector O'Sullivan and Sergeant Clarke. We had a search warrant, which Inspector O'Sullivan carried. I do not know whether Inspector O'Sullivan was armed; I did not see him carrying a revolver. I was armed with an automatic pistol. I ordered all the detectives to take arms, and they told me they were armed, but I am unable to say who were armed and who were not. When we arrived at the place I do not know who went up the stairs first. On the first floor there is a bridge. When I went into the back portion of the house, in the first floor I saw three of the Chinese constables there, standing in the passage. I saw two persons smoking opium in a small room—it was, I think, the first cubicle. I saw as I entered and was immediately on my left. One of the two men I knew before. His name is So Yui Chee, and he is a witness in the case. I passed them, taking no notice of the men, and entered another room. Inspector O'Sullivan followed close behind me. I did not see Sergeant Clarke then; I believe he had gone up to the second floor. I looked inside the second cubicle and saw a man, two women, and a small girl sitting on a bed. I took no notice of that either, but went to the furthestmost cubicle. When I entered this cubicle I saw two men lying across the bed, and a third man sitting on the bed. I was the first to go in. Inspector O'Sullivan followed me. I told the men to get up. Kwong Sang followed me. There was only one bed in the cubicle and this was situated just near the back window. The men got up and we searched them. Prisoner was one of the men lying on the bed. I searched two of the men, including prisoner, and found nothing on them. I asked them where they came from and prisoner said they came from Swatow. Kwong Sang searched the third man. After the search, the men were ordered to stay in one corner of the room. One of the men, dressed in European clothes, asked the Inspector for his clothes. The Inspector said, "All right," and after examining the clothes, handed them to him. The prisoner and the other man also asked for their long coats, which were hanging on the wall, and wanted to take these themselves, but I stopped them. I told Kwong Sang to examine them first. I then cried out for handcuffs, and one of our men outside answered me.

THE SHOOTING OF SERGEANT CLARKE AND
INSPECTOR O'SULLIVAN.

It was at this moment that Sergeant Clarke came into the room. A man came into the room almost immediately after him. I stopped him and searched him.

As I was searching him, I heard the Inspector cry out, "Don't move your hand." I looked back and saw the Inspector and a man struggling by the side of the bed. This man was the one who was dressed in European clothes. Sergeant Clarke, assisted by Kwong Sang, was also engaged in a struggle with another man. I saw the man in European clothes thrust his hand into a small black box lying on the bed, and the next moment I heard reports of firearms. The prisoner, who was beside me, also made a rush for the black box. I tried to grasp him by the collar, when I was shot in the hand. I managed, however, to strike him with my hand on the back of the neck, felling him. Just after that he managed to draw a pistol from the box. At the same time I saw Sergeant Clarke fall. It was just as I heard the report of a pistol fired from underneath the bed that he fell. I ran along the bridge and down into the street, where I met Chang Kam. I did not use my pistol because I was not able to draw it out at the time. I did not see either Kwong Sang or Inspector O'Sullivan fall. I instructed Chang Kam to go on to the staircase of No. 10 and watch the door of No. 6, whilst I concealed myself on the ground-floor of No. 10. I soon saw the prisoner coming down the street towards No. 10. I tried to fire at him, but the revolver failed to fire. I called out to Chang Kam to fire. He did so and the prisoner fell in the street. At this time Inspector Sim arrived, and I reported the matter to him. More shots were fired from No. 6 and Chang Kam replied. After a few exchanges, the fire ceased and reinforcements of Police arrived. I then went to the hospital.

DISCOVERY OF THE BODIES.

Mr. Henry Hanson, Marine Engineer and a member of the Police Reserve, said:—On January 22nd, at 11.25 a.m., I was standing near the General Post Office, and took the tram to Wanchai. On the way we passed another tram and a man called out something in Chinese. I asked the driver what it was. He replied, "Armed robbery in Gresson Street." When I reached Gresson Street, I found the place deserted. I saw two of the Chinese detectives there, and after putting on my armlet, I asked them what was the matter. They told me not to go in unless I was armed, so I went to the No. 2 Police station, and after arming myself with a revolver and ammunition, I rushed back to the scene again. I saw Sergeant Murphy, and he told me there was an armed robbery going on at No. 6, Gresson Street. I went into the house with Inspector Watt, Sergeant Cockle and Murphy, a Police Reserve Sergeant, and a Chinese detective. We went up to the first floor. On the way I noticed some blood-stains on the top of the staircase and informed Inspector Watt. Both of us traced the blood-stains to a cubicle at the back of the house. We went into the back place, where there were two cubicles and one room. We saw an old Chinese woman there, and Inspector Watt asked her if there were any people inside the cubicles. She said, "No." So we followed the blood-stains, and in the end cubicle Inspector Watt and myself saw two Europeans lying on the floor, apparently dead. One was on top of the other. I did not know either of them. We drew back our heads when I saw two feet moving under the bed. I called out, "Two feet moving," so Inspector Watt and I fired under the bed. Just after firing some one called from the room. Then Inspector Watt said, "Oh, it is a detective." We then went into the room and carried the man out from under the bed, and then he said in Chinese, "They shot me and I have hurt them." Inspector Watt asked him where he was shot, and he answered that he was shot in the groin. We asked him whether the shots he had fired had injured him, and he said no, he had already been shot. We then took him downstairs and put him into a motor-car. We did not disturb the position of the two European bodies. After putting the man into a motor-car we met a European doctor (Dr. Balesan) and took him up with us to the cubicle. The doctor felt the pulse of the two Europeans and pronounced them both to be dead. We then searched the premises, and found on the second floor a number of Chinese women. We told them to go downstairs, and we searched the cubicles to see if there were any men. We found no one there.

THE EXCHANGE OF SHOTS.

Lo Hoi, a Chinese detective, said: On January 22nd I went with Inspector O'Sullivan's party to Gresson Street. We arrived at 11 a.m. I carried a five-chambered revolver. On arrival, I went up to the first floor. Inspector O'Sullivan ordered me to go and watch the kitchen. Inspector O'Sullivan, with two other detectives, entered the cubicle at the back. The only time I saw Sun Tai was when I asked for hand-cuffs and saw him coming through the passage. Another constable was standing in the passage. There were some women in the house, while in the passage I saw a man sitting on a bed with some women. Then I heard firearms being discharged. I did not draw my revolver. Suddenly I noticed a man underneath the bed, and I attempted to catch him, when I was shot in my left side. I stepped back to draw my revolver, and while I was doing this the robbers were running out of the door. I fired twice at about five of six men who were running down the stairs. Then I noticed that four of the men were running back from the staircase into the house. Seeing me, they fired. I rushed into the kitchen and shut the door. After closing the door I saw a Chinese constable behind a stove holding a chopper in his hand. I heard one of the robbers call out, "Will you open the door? If not, I will shoot you dead." I fastened the door and caught my left shoulder against it. The robbers kicked the door in an endeavour to get

it open. The fastenings became loose. The other Chinese constable jumped through the window into the backyard. The robbers said, "The men have escaped from the backyard." I then heard the footsteps of robbers in the back cubicle. Fire-arms were being discharged all the while. I rushed out to the first floor. Some of the robbers came out of a cubicle and fired at me. I tried to run downstairs, but slipped and rolled down. I managed to get on to my feet, and when I got into the street I saw a robber lying there. He looked at me, so I ran to the other side, and told the other constable what had happened. I then saw Inspector Sim. I was next taken to the Hospital. When I went into the cubicle, I saw Inspector O'Sullivan and Sergeant Clarke each pressing a man down. I also saw a Chinese constable holding a man down. I do not know whether they were shot. I did not wound anyone.

THE ROBBER'S ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.

Sergeant McWalter deposed: On January 22nd, at 11 a.m., I was on duty at No. 2 Station and received a telephone message asking for all the police available to be sent to Ship Street. I called all the men and told them to follow me to Ship Street. We all carried arms. On the Praya I met a Chinese detective who told me the trouble was in Gresson Street. When I got to Gresson Street corner I met Inspector Sim and went with him round to the back lane, between Lun Fat Street and Gresson Street. We saw nothing there; so we came back again and went up the staircase of No. 19, Lun Fat Street. On gaining the second floor, we went to the back window. Inspector Sim left me there and went downstairs. I was armed. I stopped at the window for a few minutes, and saw two men come out of the back window of the first floor of No. 6, Gresson Street. I waited to see whether they were detectives. I noticed they were armed, each holding a pistol in each hand, and two other pistols hanging by strings from their teats. The first man wore a blue European suit; the other had on a suit of dark Chinese clothes. They got first on to the ledge, one following the other, then down by the water-spout, on to the wall between No. 4 and No. 6, Gresson Street. A third man then came out, but he drew back again, I think, being afraid. I fired two rounds at the first two men with an automatic pistol, but I am not sure whether they were wounded. Directly I fired the first shot the man leading fell off the wall into the yard of No. 6, and the other man climbed down to where I was standing, and asked me whether I was all right. I told him to look out, for two men were down in the backyard. Inspector Sim told me to keep on watch, and went down the staircase. I looked out of the window again and found that the two men I had previously seen were running along the back lane, from the direction of No. 6. I fired two rounds at them. The man who was dressed in European clothes turned round and fired at me. He then ran out of the lane into Lun Fat Street, accompanied by the second man. I ran down from the house, through the front verandah and got into Lun Fat Street. I saw the men running up Lun Fat Street; they were firing all the time at Inspector Sim, who was following them. I did not fire again. After the men and Inspector Sim got out of sight, going in the direction of Queen's Road East, I went back to the window of No. 19. I was looking out of it when I saw a third man, who had attempted to get out of the window before, getting away by the back lane. He had a pistol in his hand. I fired one round at him, and he then ran back through the back-door of No. 6. I waited a few minutes and then saw a head and a pistol peeping out from the back of the door. I fired again, and the head and hand were drawn back. A few minutes later the head and hand reappeared on the ground floor level, and I fired. I did not see him after that. I then went back to No. 2 Police Station, as I had no ammunition left, and wanted to get some. It was about 12.10 p.m.

QUICK SUCCESSION OF SHOTS.

Chen Tin, a Chinese detective, said: I went with Inspector O'Sullivan's party to No. 6, Gresson Street and was asked by Sun Tai to go up to the second floor. Sergeant Clarke, myself and two others went up, remaining there for about two minutes. We did not search the cubicles. There were no men; only a few women present. I was set to watch them. Four or five minutes later I heard several shots being fired. I was not armed, neither were the other constables who were with me. I heard shots being fired in quick succession. One of the constables who was with me called out, "Shots being fired," and blowing his whistle, he ran up to the back. I waited where I was, keeping an eye on the women who were in the passage. I did not leave while the firing was going on, but went into the street afterwards. While running down I saw a revolver lying on the ground and I stopped to pick it up. The revolver was loaded with five cartridges, two of which had been fired. I ran out into the Praya with the revolver and into the Seaman's Institute and telephoned to the Central Police Station. The two other Chinese detectives who were with me followed me down.

Ng Fu, another of the search party, said: On January 22nd I was with Inspector O'Sullivan's party and went up to the second floor of No. 6, Gresson Street. I was set to watch the staircase, while another man was set to watch the bridge, and a third constable was set to watch the verandah. Sergeant Clarke came and looked round, and finding no men there, he locked up the doors of the cubicle and left instructions that we were to watch. Sergeant Clarke then went on to the first floor. I heard shots being fired and ran into the back kitchen. About a quarter of an hour afterwards I ran downstairs. One of the constables had already run into the street. While

running down I peeped into the first floor, but, hearing no voices, I continued my way down. I saw prisoner in the street, lying on the ground. His face was covered with blood. I started blowing my whistle. A few minutes later the Police came from No. 2 Police Station.

Kwong Ho, another of the search party, said: On January 22nd I left with Inspector O'Sullivan's party for No. 6, Gresson Street and arrived there at 11 a.m. We were sent up to the second floor. Sergeant Clarke came up, and, after looking round, went down to the first floor. About four or five minutes afterwards we heard the sounds of firing. I blew my whistle and ran down to the first floor and peeped in. Not hearing anything, I ran down into the street, and I saw prisoner lying near the gutter. Shots were again fired. I then ran to the ground floor of No. 6. The rescue police then arrived, and I went to No. 2 Police Station.

THE PRINCIPAL TENANT IN HIDING.

Ho Hung said that he asked prisoner his name, and prisoner replied that it was Ng Nim. He added that his age was 23 and that he was a native of Swatow. Witness searched him, and he volunteered the information that he lived at No. 6. He said there were still four more robbers upstairs. A ricksha which had been sent for arrived then, and prisoner was carried into it and sent to No. 2 Police Station. The prisoner's hand smelt of gun-powder.

Prisoner: The detective asked me how many people were there, and I said there were four men and women.

So Yu Chi, a Chinese medical man, said: I have lived at No. 26, Queen's Road, East, for the last ten years. On January 22nd, I was not in No. 6, Gresson Street.

Mr. Longenotto. He was undoubtedly one of the two men present there.

Inspector Sim: He denied it in his statement, but admitted afterwards that he was there.

The Magistrate: What shall I do? Mr. Longenotto: He will be able to say that he saw prisoner visiting the tenants of No. 6.

The Magistrate (to witness): Have you seen prisoner before?

Witness: I recognise him. He used to come to No. 6, Gresson Street, frequently, while I was attending a patient at the house. I went there on the 15th and 16th January, and saw the prisoner there twice. The principal tenant of the back portion of the house is a woman.

The Magistrate: Is the woman one of the witnesses in the case?

Inspector Sim: She is one of the women who has gone away. She was there on the morning of the occurrence.

The Magistrate (to witness): Where is the woman?—Witness: I do not know.

So Yuet Ying, an old Chinese woman, said: I live in the back portion of the house. I was at the time in the kitchen cooking rice. I have lived on that floor for five years. I live in the back portion. My daughter, who is working for a tailor, supports me. I have not seen my daughter since the day the Police were shot. I am living at present at No. 2 Police Station. I do not know the names of the people who occupied the last cubicle on the second floor. They were two men. Both used to wear Chinese clothing. The men had only occupied the cubicle lately. They first took the cubicle in front, but afterwards shifted to the one at the back. Prisoner came into my place once. He is not one of the two men who occupied the cubicle.

The prisoner came to the place about ten days before he was arrested by the Police, stayed for about two hours, and then went away. I was in the kitchen when the Police came and I tried to come out, but the Police locked me in. I did not see the prisoner. My daughter was in the house at the time. I saw two men coming to the kitchen door and heard shots being fired. After the fire ceased the door was opened and I came out, but I saw nobody. I was present at the Public Mortuary next day with Inspector Sim, and saw a dead body but I did not know who it was.

Insp. Sim: He was one of the robbers who was dressed in blue European clothing. Inspector Sim added that witness told Inspector Morrison that her daughter was away in the country at the time.

Mr. J. R. Wood adjourned the case at 6 p.m. until 11 a.m. to-day.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (RESERVE).

EQUIPMENT PARADES.

Platoons will parade at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m. as detailed below. Rifles, ammunition, armlets, whistles and chains and truncheons are to be produced for inspection by those in possession of same. Uniform, caps with covers, Munition and Equipment Officers are to be in attendance.

No. 2 Platoon—Wednesday, March 6th.

No. 1 Platoon—Thursday, March 7th.

Nos. 3 and 4 Platoons—Friday, March 8th.

Nos. 7 and 8 Platoons—Tuesday, March 12th.

Nos. 5 and 6 Platoons—Thursday, March 14th.

Men on duty and therefore unable to attend with their respective units will attend instead on Friday, March 15th.

NO. 3 COMPANY, ETC.

All members of No. 3 Company, Ambulance and Drummers are requested to attend at the office of Acting Inspector Watt (26, Des Vœux Road Central, above A. Tack & Company) at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, March 6th.

JOINED.

No. 2 Company, No. 5 Platoon, No. 10 Section—4.45 A. Pereira.

By Order.

T. F. HUGHES,
A.S.P. (B.) and Adjutant.

March 6th.

ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

must also mention our appreciation of the valuable assistance given us, from time to time, by the Government, in the sympathetic manner in which most of our proposals have been received and acted upon; notably the request for legislation in connection with insurance contracts have been clearly interfered with by War regulations at home, and in this connection it is only fitting we should record our appreciation of the unflinching energy, tact and courtesy we have received at all times through protracted negotiations at the hands both of the Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, and the Colonial Secretaries, Mr. J. G. Brown and Mr. J. H. Williams. Nor should we forget the valuable assistance given us by the Superintendent of Exports and Imports, whose labour and kind limitations of staff and space command our respect and sympathy.

RETURN OF LOCAL VOLUNTEERS AFTER THE WAR.

Early in the year the Chamber addressed the Government on the return of local volunteers medically discharged or on the cessation of hostilities, urging that the fullest assistance should be given to what is really highly specialised labour of great economic national value. It returned to former occupations in the East should the men so desired, at the earliest possible moment. A register of the employees of firms here, now serving in various battle fields, was sent by the Chamber, which will gladly do its utmost on application to ensure the prompt return of men fit for further service.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

We welcome the establishment of the "Imperial Trust for the encouragement of Scientific and Industrial Research," whose efforts are already beginning to bear fruit, and have followed with interest the further deliberations of the "Imperial Council of Commerce"—whose latest pronouncements tend more and more to support this Chamber's views on post-economic trade war against our German enemies.

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN.

Alarming recurrent fires led the Fire Insurance Association to call a special meeting of the Chamber on the serious condition of the regular fire department, due, it is alleged, to the fire being undermanned and lacking in necessary modern appliances. The immediate release of *volunteer* fire men from all military duties, save the annual maneuvers, was urged, and it was expected that the Chamber would have succeeded in securing the release of the volunteers, though we have still on the opinion that the release of the admitted depletion of the regular brigade, volunteers should be attracted and encouraged by the granting of the full concessions asked for.

The inadequate water supply at Appleton Valley and the want of proper appliances for fighting fires, are the two territorial defects which, exactly a week ago, will probably be the subject of the most searching investigation at the Coroner's inquiry about to open, for nothing so serious as this will satisfy public demand, and whatever the shortcomings of the department must be exposed and safeguarded against for the future.

LANGUAGE SCHOOL.

The Language School has made steady and most satisfactory progress, several students already speaking colloquial Cantonese fairly fluently. The success achieved under the limitations occasioned by depleted staffs, amply justified the experiment and augurs a bright future for the future of the school, but also for the increasing influence on the trade of Southern China, and we trust to in the interests of British trade, in a few days, all firms will insert in their agreements a clause making the Cantonese or Mandarin course in Chamber's school obligatory upon new arrival from home. The Committee desire to record their appreciation of the conscientious zeal, ability and assistance of the school's conductor, the Rev. Pearce, L.L.D., Director, this work, to add their congratulations on the deserved honour so recently bestowed upon him by the Hongkong University (Applause).

CUSTOMS TARIFF.
The Customs Tariff Commission sitting in Shanghai has our best wish that its deliberations may result in a tariff which, whilst just to all, will lead to a considerable increase in the Revenue of China, and at the same time secure the complete elimination of the obnoxious duties which so seriously handicap trade in the interior of China. In this connection it is pleasing to be able to record that a recent member of this Committee—Mr. C. E. Anthon—now serving as a member of this mission.

GERMAN PROPAGANDA IN CHINA. Evidence of continued enemy propaganda and intrigue have again come before your Committee during the year, though for obvious reasons they cannot be referred to here in detail. They have been strongly represented to your Committee by the British Mission in Peking, the Government here and the Home Government through the London Chamber of Commerce, with the appeal that all possible should be made to persuade the Central Government in China to expel all Germans from its territories, and until this is accomplished we feel that the peace of China, so vital to the development of her vast rich resources, is likely to be indefinitely delayed.

On the whole, and notwithstanding handicaps of the world-wide intermarine strike, it is obvious there is cause for the study that the trade of China was so well-maintained during the period under review, but the limitation of homeward freights both in the Pacific and especially to Europe, resulting from increased requisition of ships for food, cargo, points of origin, more difficult times, and the fact of monsoon winds, suggest that quantities of general cargo, the like over three millions of dollars worth of raw silk packed awaiting shipment from Canton, France, and the immediate future of Canton silk industry is so seriously threatened that both the H. K. Government and the H. K. Chamber are devoting every effort to relieve the situation, though at the time of spontaneous results have yet been obtained.

CHINA'S FUTURE.

In conclusion I cannot help express the fervent hope that the great future of China, with which our life

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AMERICA'S PART IN THE WAR.

Mr. W. D. KRAFT, seconded the motion. In doing so he said: "I do not think it necessary for me to dwell upon details of the contents of this report except to say that our Committee on the International Work accomplished. You have probably all read it and can appreciate the great amount of useful work which has been done, and this in spite of the lack of German help. Your usefulness has increased, and your Chamber-to-day has a larger membership than at any period of its history. There is one question, however, which I wish to refer to, and that is our school for teaching of the Chinese language by Europeans. This, I think, is an excellent thing, and for your information I may tell you that our Company (the Standard Oil Company), when sending out young men to this part of the world, have made them thoroughly understand that they are at once to commence the study of the vernacular languages of the different parts of the country."

—SYNOPSIS OF U.S.A.—

I do not propose to occupy your time in trying to comment on any local conditions, for they are all well known to you, but I feel sure you will be interested to hear of some of the things which America is doing in this great world struggle. The United States Government has within the last sixty days commandeered the entire railroad systems of the United States. This was done in order that the greatest efficiency could be attained, and all the officials of these great arteries of transportation are glad in giving their aid in handling this important question. (Applause.)

You some idea of the magnitude of these systems, I might say. The mileage of these systems, of all Europe and Asia combined, is a matter of fact, the railroad tracks, if strung out in a continuous line, would be sufficient to run a girder of steel eleven times around this earth and the equator. The locomotives if placed end to end would fill four railroad tracks each 385 miles long. These railroads handle 2,000,000,000 tons of freight per annum, and the total operating revenue for the year ending June 30th, 1917, was \$4,382,000,000. During the last thirty days our Government found it necessary to suspend for a period of five days the operation of all industries excepting those engaged in the manufacture of foodstuffs and munitions. This was for the purpose of relieving the congested districts of coal and other commodities which were urgently needed by

plies with the Head of the Standard Oil company is the Chairman of the Petroleum Committee of the United States Government, and is devoting his entire time to this question and is being heartily supported by the entire oil industry of the country. You may have seen in some of the papers that most industries have given their word that all supplies of oil and fuel which are needed by the allies will be furnished.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

During the last few days I have had the opportunity of discussing with Mr. Doubleday, who is a partner of the American Ambassador in London, Mr. Page, in regard to the good work being done by the Red Cross Society of the United States. During December last, Mr. Page's drive was started to the United States to secure members for this Society and in one week they were able to add to their membership 25,000 names, and it is hoped to

increase this to 40,000,000 within the next three months. Mr. Doubleday informed me that 90 per cent. of the work done by this Society is given to countries outside the United States, and in France alone they have undertaken the maintenance of 4,000 hospitals, and already have collected \$100,000,000 for this purpose. As Mr. Doubleday says, America heretofore been known as a nation of money makers, and before this was ended we hope to be known as a nation of money givers. (Applause).

— AVIATION.

Accordingly says in the name of the num-

of the *Scientific American* a
of a gigantic plant, which was 1,300
long, and which had 13 bays com-
long; and this plant would be in com-
operation within 30 days, and when
pleted it was estimated that one fan
aeroplane would be turned out
nineteen minutes of the 24 hours, and
means 5,000 machines each month
(plane). There are other plans
under construction for the Aviation Com-
the United States 100,000 of Amer-
can men, and as many more
as needed are ready to serve.

The *New York Herald*, after
trouble and expense, published a com-
list of all alien enemies within the
of New York giving their names

addressed. The United States Government has established a dead line at all the points of shipping in the States, and I understand that no persons have been received there since Manila took all German businesses and plants to be liquidated at once, that enemy aliens will be transpacific on an early date to the United States internment. (Applause.) I hope for our ally, China, while not being able to give much material assistance in the great struggle, will see the necessity of interning in the strictest sense the enemy aliens in her domain, for it is shown that these people are no exception when they are in the hands of the enemy.

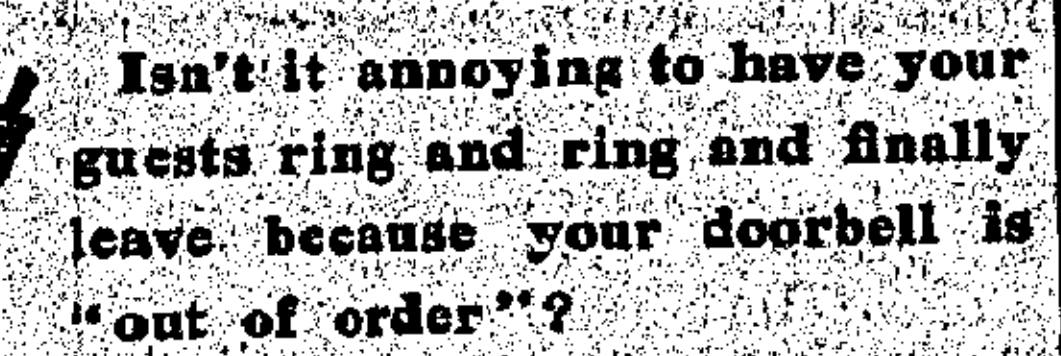
ou will probably have seen a statement made recently by Mr. Doubleday regarding the ambition of the Government to control the entire system of the world, and in these Philippine Islands they have discovered one of this German contractor's outlets to bid for the work, and was planned with the idea of the Islands, and selected to select locations for stations in certain places, in order that the Philippine Islands would fall into the hands of the German Government. These stations would be located very advantageously for their use. Doubleday also told me that he had seen a circular, which was given to him by a German agent, and which was signed by a German agent. On reading it, I was greatly interested and was able to grasp the importance of the situation.

(Continued on Page 6.)

50 YEARS, 25 YEARS AND 10 YEARS RESPECTIVELY.



[10]



GE Bell-ringing Transformers

NEVER OUT OF ORDER-NEVER EXHAUSTED

FOR SALE BY ELECTRICAL DEALERS.

Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.
Sole Agents.
Hotel Mansions. Telephone 1990.



Wm. Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

NEW SHOES

LADIES'
AFTERNOON WEAR.
STYLISH BOOTS & SHOES
JUST ARRIVED!

(Continued on Page 6.)

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Firm of A. R. MARTY, Bene Salles, Successor, has as from the 12th February, 1918, sold to Messrs. P. A. LAPOQUE & Co., S.S. "HANOI," which insures the Postal Service between Hongkong and Haiphong and also the right to use the name of A. R. MARTY, Compagnie de Navigation Tonkinoise.

The business will hereafter be carried on by Messrs. P. A. LAPOQUE & Co., Queen's Building, Telephone No. 930.

P. A. LAPOQUE & Co.,
Maison, A. R. MARTY,
Bene Salles, Successor.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918. [1740]

THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS & SHIPBUILDERS OF HONGKONG.

THE 27th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS & SHIPBUILDERS will be held in the Institution Rooms on FRIDAY, 28th March, at 9 p.m.

F. BAKER,
Hon. Secretary. [1741]

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 23rd day of March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and declaring a Dividend.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, the 14th March, 1918, until SATURDAY, the 23rd March, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
Hongkong, 5th March, 1918. [1742]

FOR SALE.

PIANO, excellent condition, half cost price.
Apply—
PIANO,
Care of "Daily Press" Office,
[1743]

WANTED.

EUROPEAN OVERSEER for about three months to supervise Reinforced-Concrete Work. Wages \$300 per month.
Apply by letter with copies of testimonials to—
Messrs. LITTLE, ADAM & WOOD,
Shamoen, Canton. [1744]

PONIES! PONIES! PONIES!
PUBLIC HOUSE.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Roup TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY), the 6th March, 1918, at 3 p.m., at the Fountain, opposite the City Hall, A LARGE NUMBER OF WELL-KNOWN RACE PONIES. (Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers. [1745]

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.
HAPPY VALLEY COURSE.

THROUGH the courtesy of the STEWARDS of the JOCKEY CLUB, the Golf Club will be housed temporarily in the Jockey Club Stand and Enclosure. The Ladies' Room situated in the Grand Stand has also been lent for the use of Lady Golfers.

Caddies will not be allowed in the Race Club enclosure, but will use their quarters alongside the old Club House.

To prevent any abuse of the hospitality of the Stewards of the Jockey Club, Members must strictly observe the special conditions concerning the regulating of Caddies and other matters which will be posted on the Club Notice Board.

The Jockey Club Room will be open for Golf Club Members TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY), the 6th inst.

By Order of the Committee,
JOHN BENTLEY,
Hon. Secretary. [1747]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

NOTICE.

THE TEA DANCE which was to be held on FRIDAY next, the 8th inst., is CANCELLED.

J. H. TAGGART,
Manager. [1746]

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PURCHASERS OF PARI-MUTUEL TICKETS on the fifth Race, Second Day, for Cash Sweeps, Places and Winners, also Cash Sweep ticket holders, of following Races can obtain a refund on production of their tickets at the Offices of the Hongkong Jockey Club, on the Ground Floor of the HONGKONG CLUB ANNEX, CHATER ROAD, between the hours of 5.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on MONDAY, 4th March, 1918, until 28th March (Saturdays and Sundays excepted).

HOLDERS OF UNPAID WINNING TICKETS (Cash Sweeps, Places and Winners) will also be paid at the same place and between the same hours as stated above on production of their tickets.

LOWE, RINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Accountants to the Club.
Hongkong Jockey Club. [1747]

INTIMATIONS

THE ASSOCIATION OF EXPORTERS AND DEALERS OF HONGKONG

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the ASSOCIATION OF EXPORTERS AND DEALERS OF HONGKONG will be held TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY), 6th March, 1918, at 4 p.m. precisely, in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, for the following purpose:—

- (1) To receive the Report and Accounts of the Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1917.
- (2) To elect a New Committee.
- (3) To transact any General Business.

By Order,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 12nd February, 1918. [1675]

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, on SATURDAY, the 9th March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 5th March, 1918, until SATURDAY, the 9th March, 1918, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 27th February, 1918. [1713]

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Incorporated in Hongkong.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Head Office of the Company, No. 3 and 4, Queen's Buildings, Victoria, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 14th March, 1918, at 12.30 p.m., when the subjoined Resolution passed at an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING convened for that purpose and held on the 14th February, 1918, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution:—

"That the provisions of the Company's Memorandum of Association with respect to the objects be altered so as to read as shown in the printed form for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of the Meeting."

Should the above Resolution be confirmed as a Special Resolution by the requisite majority the alterations in the Company's Memorandum of Association consequently involved will be submitted to the Supreme Court of Hongkong for confirmation.

A Print of the Memorandum as proposed to be altered can be seen at the Head Office of the Company.

Dated this 1st day of March, 1918.
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager. [1714]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-SECOND YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House, on MONDAY, the 18th March, 1918, at 5.30 p.m.

By Order,
E. DES VEAUX,
Secretary. [1730]

NATIONAL LOAN OF THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC (1914).

SUBSCRIBERS to the above LOAN are hereby notified that redemption of the BONDS DRAWN on 20th February last will begin on 1st March, 1918.

Payment in cash or its equivalent will be made at the BANK OF CHINA and BANK OF COMMUNICATIONS or any of the Branches of the above Banks and also at the Shanghai Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Any bond of which the following are the three terminal numbers, namely, 08, 14, 23, 35, 47, 51, 58, 67, 77, 88, 00, is a Drawn Bond.

F. A. AGLEN,
Inspector General of Customs. [1737]

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr. CHAN CHUNG Po having voluntarily Resigned from the position of Comptroller to this Company as from 28th inst., we have appointed Mr. KWOK HIN WANG to be Comptroller in his place for our Hongkong and Canton Offices.

JOHN DE R. LANCASTER,
Acting Local Manager.
Hongkong, 26th February, 1918. [1688]

PROPOSALS FOR FROZEN BEEF AND MUTTON—Headquarters.

Philippine Department, Office of Department Quartermaster, Manila, P.I. Sealed Proposals will be received here until 11 A.M., April 3rd, 1918, and then opened for furnishing about 600,000 lbs. of Beef and 75,000 lbs. of Mutton. Further information on application. [1731]

STRAITS MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD.

DISPENSARY BUILDINGS, RAFFLES PLACE, Singapore, are HONORARY AGENTS of the STRAITS MERCHANT SERVICE GUILD, where subscription are received, new Members are enrolled and all Members are welcomed as Visitors during their stay in port. [1738]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

N.O. 15, BURROW STREET, Wanchow, ONE ROOM, "LEWKNOR" No. 156, THE PRINCE, from 1st April, 1918.
Apply to—
LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
3rd Floor Alexandra Buildings. [30]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry, Four very desirable SUITES, situated in Los House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
The MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
48, Connaught Road Central. [168]

TO LET.

OFFICES in York Buildings, HOUSES on Shamoen, Canton. Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. [168]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon. FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon. Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. [1688]

WANTED.

TWO or THREE LARGE OFFICE ROOMS in Central Locality. First floor preferred. Apply to—
TONG SENG & Co.,
15, Queen's Road Central. [1687]

WANTED.

A T. the PRINCE, for a little girl of 2½ years resident EUROPEAN NURSE. Apply—
Box No. 25,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [1688]

WANTED.

A N ELECTRICAL or MARINE ENGINEER is required as a Shift Engineer at the Generating Station of the HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD., Wanchow.
Apply in writing accompanied by details of experience and copies of testimonials to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.,
St. George's Buildings. [1683]

WANTED: COMPANION-GOVERNESS.

ENGLISH LADY in Malay States requires in March a European Companion-Governess for her daughter aged fourteen. Usual English, good French and Malay; to accompany family later in the year to New Zealand and thence to England as soon as permitted; must be energetic and good traveller, age 25-35 years. Salary £200 per annum and all found. All passages monies paid.
Apply fully by letter with copies of testimonials and photograph to
Box No. 1318,
care of "Daily Press" Office. [1739]

FOR SALE.

TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 155, Peak. Apply—
DUNCAN CLARK,
Care of LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. [1711]

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

SAUSAGES!

A Variety to suit all tastes
OXFORD SAUSAGES.
CAMBRIDGE " "
PORK " "
BEEF " "
LIVER " "
BOLOGNA, HEAD CHEESE,
BLACK PUDDING.
WHITE " " " "
Do. " " " " " "
[1623]

G. R. E.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the GENERAL POST OFFICE between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 5 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1915.
Forms of Registration giving full particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

INTIMATION

WATSON'S
HYGIENOL

A HIGHLY CONCENTRATED AND PERFECTLY SAFE

DISINFECTANT.

THE BEST PREVENTATIVE OF INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

SOLD ONLY BY

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

TELEPHONE 616

MARRIAGE.

ANDERSON—TYNDALL.—At St. Andrew's, Wells Street, London, W., on December 10th, 1917, by the Rev. S. R. Knight, B.D., vicar, Major JOHN ANDERSON, Canterbury Regt. New Zealand Expeditionary Force, to ALICE, widow of the late HENRY DARY TYNDALL, Chinese Customs.

DEATH.

MILLAR.—At No. 43, Boone Road, Shanghai, on February 28th, ELIZABETH MILLAR, the beloved mother of Mrs. J. Kenneth, aged 82 years.

Hongkong Office: 10A, Des Voeux Road, C.
London Office: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 6TH MARCH, 1918

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE.

The leaders of the Bolsheviks, if not deliberate traitors, must be sadder and wiser men than they were three short months ago. At that time they imagined that it was within their power to restore the blessings of peace to the world and to enjoy, undisturbed, the fruits of the Russian revolution. So sanguine was M. THORSKY that he asked who would want to resume warfare after a month's armistice. Germany has answered in a way that, apparently, he little expected, despite the propaganda which he distributed amongst the enemy troops on the Eastern Front, and the child-like faith which he showed in his own theories by entering the Peace Conference at Brest-Litovsk without any force at his command to compel respect for his opinions. The peace pamphlets incensed General HOFFMAN but converted nobody, while the defenceless state of Russia emboldened Germany to insist upon receiving her full "pound of flesh," as everybody but the Bolsheviks foresaw. All the smooth talk about "a democratic peace" with "no annexations and no indemnities" speedily resolved itself into empty words. Germany was determined to incorporate the Baltic Provinces in her Empire, and in order to mask her predatory designs, she advanced the hypocritical argument that as all the peoples of Russia had been accorded, by the present Government, the right to "self-determination," including separation, she was entitled to remain in the occupied territory unless and until the inhabitants demanded their withdrawal. In view of the fact that

many of those inhabitants had fled before the invader and that those who remained were largely German colonists, implanted there during many years past in pursuance of a definite policy, the true meaning of this proposal was immediately apparent to the Bolsheviks, who uttered loud protests, appealed to the peoples of the Central European Powers to prevent this injustice, and threatened "a holy war." Of course it was all unavailing. The German militarists are not moved by entreaties or deterred by threats which they know cannot be carried out, and the masses are either too subservient to, or too much in sympathy with, their leaders to interfere. Refusing to pay any heed to the later announcement that Russia regarded herself at peace with the Central Powers, Germany and her allies vigorously resumed military operations and delivered such heavy blows that the Bolshevik delegates were speedily brought to their knees, and, in despair, signed a treaty of peace without even discussing its contents. This treaty must be ratified within a fortnight, and, as it does not meet with the approval of some of the Soviets, an Extraordinary Assembly of these bodies is to be convoked to settle the question. Some, with a spark of spirit left, are ready to raise the masses against German Imperialism, but it is to be feared that the process of disintegration has gone too far for any hope of successful resistance to be entertained at this stage. The prophecy uttered by the Social Revolutionary members of the Assembly a couple of months ago that Russia would be placed in a state of political and economic servitude to the victors by the Bolsheviks, seems almost certain of fulfilment. In addition to retaining her hold upon the Baltic Provinces, Germany is establishing herself in Ukraine and is preparing to intervene in Finland. Those who precipitated the country into the abyss of civil war and anarchy are beginning to learn that it is easier to disorganise than to organise, and that the day of reckoning soon comes to those who hastily repudiate their obligations and betray their friends in the belief that by so doing they are advancing their own interests.

The Green Island Cement Co.'s annual meeting will be held on the 23rd inst.

The annual meeting of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong will be held on the 26th inst.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$6 to the funds of the hospitals from U. M. Omar.

The marriage arranged between Lieut. Commander Norman Wilkinson and Evelyn H. Mackenzie, youngest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Murdo Mackenzie, of Swatow, was to take place on January 12th, at Marylebone Presbyterian Church, says the *L. and C. Express*.

The fortnightly meeting of the Union Church Guild will be held this evening at 9 o'clock in the Lecture Hall, Kennedy Road, when a lecture will be delivered by Lieut. Sylvester Lee on "Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Central China." This lecture is open to the public, and will be the last of the series arranged for this session.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS EPIDEMIC.

HONGKONG DECLARED AN INFECTED PORT.

The following telegram, dated the 4th March, 1918, has been received by the Hongkong Government from His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Bangkok:—

"Your telegram of 22nd February, Hongkong declared to be infected, cerebro-spinal meningitis. All ships leaving subsequently to 2nd March should call at Koh Phra (to) get 'pratique'."

[An interesting article on Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis will be found on page 7.]

COMPANY REPORT.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

Subject to audit, the directors of the Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., will at the forthcoming meeting of shareholders, to be held on 23rd inst., recommend the following allocation of profits:—

To write off Deep Water Bay buildings and machinery.....\$ 15,000.00
To pay a dividend of 80 cents per share.....330,000.00
To pay a bonus to staff.....14,284.28
To place to reserve fund.....35,000.00
And to carry forward to credit of next year's account.....114,762.77
\$499,048.20

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LOCAL AUXILIARY.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held last evening at the Helena May Institute. The Bishop of Victoria (Dr. Lander) presided and was supported on the platform by Rev. T. W. Pearce (Honorary Secretary), the Rev. L. A. Warnshuis, of Amoy; Dr. H. Gordon Thompson, of Yunnanfu; and the Rev. H. E. Anderson.

The report stated that efforts on behalf of the Bible Society have been maintained steadily during 1917, with results that mark a further advance. Reference to the report and balance sheet for 1916, show that the contributions to the Hongkong Auxiliary, reached the sum of \$1,776.13. Those for the year under report amount to \$2,074.68, an increase of \$333.55 on the highest total previously recorded in the history of the Auxiliary. Two main sources of income appear to indicate encouraging signs of growth. Collections in Churches, on Bible Sunday, have been, in several instances, appreciably larger; and subscriptions obtained under the auspices of the Ladies' Committee form a gratifying factor in the Treasurer's Statement.

The following summary for the year of operations at the Depot, in Wyndham Street, has been furnished by the management. Sales of non-Chinese scriptures, 709; of Chinese scriptures, 4,160. Cash received from the sale of scriptures, \$1,384.54. Additional sales of 4,737 copies of scripture have been effected through the sub-agent; whilst 10,512 portions of the old and new testament have been thus disposed of by colporteurs under his direction; and a further 62,629 portions by colporteurs under the control of missionaries, making a total in the Hongkong sub-agency of 82,774 bibles, new testaments and smaller portions, for the year 1917.

The Bishop spoke of his trips into the interior of China and said that the Chinese valued the Scriptures very highly and eagerly accepted the Testaments.

The Rev. L. A. Warnshuis made certain comparisons between China as it was in the days of Robert Morrison, who for seven years was unable to make one convert, and at the present day when hundreds attended the meetings held by Mr. Sherwood Eddy all over the country. A large number of students and high officials had embraced Christianity. He made reference to the late Admiral Ching, who he said, had practically decided to become a Christian and had made an arrangement with Mr. Eddy to speak about Christianity, when he was assassinated.

Dr. H. Gordon Thompson spoke about the aborigines and tribesmen who live in the mountains of Yunnan. He described their mode of living, and said that they were once the lowest of the low, regarded social status, but now gradually they were coming under the influence of civilization and Christianity. Parts of the Bible had recently been translated for them, and were being largely distributed and earnestly read by the people. He spoke about the hardships which the missionaries have to undergo, living away in the mountains, cut off from civilization and medical men, in order to spread the Word of God amongst the heathen. Neither sickness nor death had any terror for them. He referred to the leper asylum at Pakhoi and the self-denial of the inmates, who, despite the fact that they were only given eight cents a month for their upkeep (rice, of course, being provided) were able to make a alms offering at the Christmas service, their reason being that, as they had benefited by the Word of God, they wished others to enjoy the same benefits.

On the motion of the Rev. T. W. Pearce, seconded by the Rev. H. E. Anderson, the following officers-bearers were elected for 1918:—President—The Bishop of Victoria. Committee—The Bishops of St. John's Cathedral, Union Church, St. Peter's, St. Andrew's and the Wesleyan Methodist Church; the Naval and Military Chaplains serving in Hongkong; Major A. T. Walsley, Mr. W. N. Humphreys, Mrs. Dowbiggin, Miss Fletcher, Mr. D. Wood, Mrs. Hutchings, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Henry Sykes (Hon. Treasurer); and the Rev. Thomas W. Pearce (Hon. Secretary).

THEFT FROM MESSRS. WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO.

COOLIE SENT TO GAOL.

At the Hongkong Magistracy, yesterday, before Mr. J. R. Wood, a Chinese coolie, employed by Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., was charged with stealing a pair of black glass kid shoes, valued at £15, the property of the firm. Mr. H. H. Hadden, assistant manager of the firm, said that at 5.40 p.m. on Monday he heard a man call out, "Stealing things." He went to the place and found defendant being held by an Indian watchman and the cashier. A pair of shoes were lying on the floor.

The Indian watchman stated that he saw defendant carry the shoes out through the back door, and when he had deposited the rubbish, witness noticed defendant acting in a suspicious manner. Witness searched him, and found the shoes tied round his waist. Defendant showed fight and bit him in the hand. Witness then called out, and the cashier and Mr. Hadden came on the scene. Defendant was arrested and taken to the Police Station.

It was stated that several rolled gold bangles were also found in defendant's possession. These were similar to the bangles in the shop.

Defendant declared that the shoes were placed in his possession by the watchman with the connivance of the assistant manager and cashier.

Mr. Hadden said that robberies had been of frequent occurrence lately, and they were unable to catch the culprits.

Mr. Dyer, B.L., sentenced defendant to six weeks' hard labour and four hours in the stocks, the latter to be outside Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co.'s premises.

THE WAR.

RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE TREATY: THE OFFICIAL GERMAN VERSION.

SOVIETS TO MEET AND RUSSIAN TROOPS TO REMAIN IN POSITION.

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S REPORT ON THE CAMBRAI OPERATIONS.

PREMIER'S TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GENERAL MAUDE.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE TREATY.

TEXT ISSUED BY THE
QUADRUPLICE.

AMSTERDAM, March 4th.

Berlin has officially issued the text of the Peace Treaty between Germany, Austro-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey, on the one hand, and Russia on the other.

Article 1 stipulates that the contracting parties shall live henceforth in peace and friendship.

Article 2—The contracting parties will refrain from all agitation and provocation against the existence of the Government or State, and spare the populations of the occupied regions.

Article 3—The regions lying west of a line agreed upon by the contracting parties and formerly belonging to Russia shall no longer be under Russian territory. This line in the west shall be fixed by a mixed Russo-German Commission. The Treaty regions in question will have no obligation whatever towards Russia arising from former relations. Russia refrains from all interference in internal affairs in these territories and allows Austro-Hungary and Germany to determine their future fate in agreement with their populations.

Article 4—Austro-Hungary and Germany undertake, when a general peace is concluded and the Russian demobilisation fully carried out, to evacuate the regions east of the line referred to in Article 3 so far as Article 6 does not stipulate otherwise. Russia will completely evacuate the Anatolian provinces as soon as possible and return these to Turkey. The districts of Erzerum, Batum and Kars will likewise be evacuated by Russia without delay. Russia will not interfere with the re-organisations of the constitutional and international conditions of these districts, but will leave these to the populations thereof, in agreement with neighbouring States, particularly Turkey.

Article 5—Russia will not delay to demobilise completely, including the newly-formed forces; to transfer warships to Russian harbours, leaving them there until a general peace is proclaimed, or immediately disarm them. Warships hostile to the Quadruplice will be treated as Russian in so far as they are within Russian control. The removal of mines in the Baltic, and, in so far as Russian power extends, in the Black Sea will be begun immediately. Commercial shipping in these waters is freely and immediately to be resumed. A Mixed Commission will fix further regulations, especially as regards merchant ships' routes, which must be kept permanently free from floating mines.

Article 6—Russia undertakes immediately to conclude peace with Ukraine, recognise the Peace Treaty between Ukraine and the Quadruplice, evacuate Ukraine immediately, and cease agitation or propaganda against the Government and public institutions of Ukraine, and evacuate without delay Estonia and Livonia. The eastern frontier of Estonia follows the line of the Narva River. The eastern frontier of Livonia runs through Lake Pripiat and Lake Peipus to the south-west corner of Lake Peipus, thence over Lake Luban, in the direction of Leningrad, on the Dvina, Estonia and Livonia will be occupied by a German Police Force until security is guaranteed and order restored. Russia guarantees to release all arrested Estonians and Livonians, and guarantees the safe return of deported Estonians and Livonians.

ORDER TO CEASE HOSTILITIES.

LONDON, March 4th.

A wireless Russian official message states that General Krylenko has ordered the Russians to cease hostilities but to remain in their present positions.

EARLIER CABLES.

RATIFICATION WITHIN A FORTNIGHT.

LONDON, March 4th.

A message from Petrograd says that the Central Executive Committee proclaims that within a fortnight the Peace Treaty must be definitely ratified on both sides, but since some of the Soviets favour peace at any price others are ready to raise the masses against German Imperialism. It is urgent to convoke an extraordinary assembly of the Soviets to settle the question. The date which has been fixed is March 12th, at Moscow.

KAISER SATISFIED.

AMSTERDAM, March 4th.

The Kaiser has telegraphed to Count Hertling as follows: "The German sword, wielded by my great Army leaders, has brought peace with Russia. It especially satisfies me that German blood and German Kultur have been saved."

THE AALAND ISLANDS.

SWEDEN OBJECTS TO GERMANY'S PROPOSALS.

STOCKHOLM, March 3rd.

Germany has officially informed Sweden that she is sending troops to Finland, at the request of the Finnish Government, to suppress the Revolution. German troops will use the Aaland Islands as a halting place. Germany assures Sweden that she has no territorial interest in the Aaland Islands and recognises Sweden's vital interests therein. Sweden has replied that she strongly objects to the eventual inclusion of the Aaland Islands in the sphere of the war operations, and emphasises that even the limited utilisation of the islands according to the German conditions might create difficulties in the way of Sweden's humanitarian work of protection of the population of the islands.

The Swedish Commander at Aaland has been informed of the expected arrival of the German expedition.

THE SIBERIAN MENACE.

SITUATION STATIONARY.

LONDON, March 4th.

The Japanese situation is at present stationary, but the conclusion of negotiations is expected every moment.

There is little fear that the Bolsheviks will get much stores from Vladivostok, as the quantities are so vast that it would take six months' normal service to transport them westwards.

GERMANY THREATENS JAPAN.

THE HAGUE, March 4th.

German political circles are greatly agitated at reports regarding Japan's Siberian move. Inspired Press comment states that Germany will not fight in Siberia, but if the Japanese attempt to rob Germany of the profits of her peace with Russia, Germany will quickly reply. Germany will only help Russia against Japan if Russia asks her, and then on her own terms.

LATEST CABLES.

GERMANY AND ROUMANIA.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS DECIDED UPON.

JASOV, March 4th.

The Roumanian Crown Council, the King of Roumania presiding, decided to reply to the enemy Ultimatum received on March 1st, that Roumania had decided to enter peace negotiations with the Central Powers.

The negotiations will open shortly at Bucharest.

THE BATTLE OF CAMBRAI. SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S DESPATCH.

LONDON, March 4th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a despatch dealing with the battle of Cambrai, mentions that it was proposed to stop the attack 48 hours after its commencement, or sooner, if the results did not justify continuance. Detailing the reasons for its continuance after the expiry of this period, Sir Douglas Haig states that the positions captured north of Plesquieres were completely commanded by the Bourlon Ridge and must be abandoned unless the ridge were gained. On the other hand, the enemy showed signs of withdrawing, and the loss of the ridge would probably cause the Germans to abandon their carefully-prepared defence systems for a considerable distance northward. The enemy was not yet too strong in the Bourlon region to be overcome by the numbers at Sir Douglas Haig's disposal. An additional and most important argument for continuing the attack was the enemy offensive in Italy.

Moreover, two divisions, which were under orders for Italy, were placed at Sir Douglas Haig's disposal, and, therefore, the prospect of securing Bourlon seemed good.

Dealing with the enemy counter-attack on November 30th, Sir Douglas Haig says that at the northern end of Bonaville and in the Gommegnies sector the witness of the bombardment, appears to have overwhelmed our troops, both in the line and the immediate support, almost before they realised that the attack had begun.

The nature of the bombardment contributed to the success of the enemy's plans. No steadily advancing barrage gave warning of the approach of the German assault columns, whose secret assembly was assisted by the formation of the ground and the morning mist. It was only when the attack was upon them that a great number of low-flying German aeroplanes rained machine-gun fire upon our infantry, while the extensive use of smoke shells and bombs made it most difficult for our troops to see what was happening on the other parts of the battlefield.

There is little doubt that, although the attack was expected generally, yet in the arena of the battle the assault was effected by local surprise.

Sir Douglas Haig says that the greatest credit is due to the troops at Masnières, Bourlon and Moeuvres for their most gallant service on that day. Their steady courage and staunchness saved possible serious consequences.

Dealing with the results of the battle, the despatch says that there is little doubt that it was of considerable indirect assistance to the Allied forces in Italy, for large demands were made upon available German reserves at a time when a great concentration of German divisions was still being maintained in Flanders. There is evidence that German divisions, intended for the Italian theatre, were diverted to Cambrai, and it is probable that the further concentration of German forces against Italy was suspended at least a fortnight at the most, critical period when the Italians were making their first stand on the Piave.

The partial success of the enemy's attack may be taken to show that the garrison on this front was insufficient, either owing to want of numbers, lack of training or exhaustion from the previous fighting. Sir Douglas Haig emphasises that captured maps and others prove that the enemy aimed at far greater results than were achieved. Three convergent attacks were to be made on the salient formed by the British advances, two of which were delivered approximately near Comblanchien and Masnières, followed by a still more powerful attack at Bourlon. The objectives of these attacks were extended to the high ground at Beaumont and Trescault, and the enemy hoped to capture and destroy the whole British force in the Cambrai salient. This bold and ambitious plan was foiled on the greater part of the front by the splendid defence of the British divisions engaged, and though the defence was temporarily broken down in one area, the recovery that was made by the weak forces still left, and those within immediate reach, was most praiseworthy.

After paying a tribute to the manner in which General Byng conducted the operations, the despatch states that the great offensive value of the tanks was conclusively proved. In view of this experience the enemy may well hesitate to deplete any portion of his front in order to free troops for a decisive action elsewhere.

LATEST CABLES.

GERMANY'S DETESTABLE WARFARE.

LONDON, March 4th.

Admiral Roslyn Wemyss decorated 10 officers and 18 men in connection with the Dover Straits engagement on February 14th.

The Admiral said the Admiralty knew the patrol would respond whenever called upon, as the Navy had always responded all over the Empire. The enemy were brave and gallant, but had taken a mode of warfare which was damnable and detestable, to counter which steps were being taken and would continue till the enemy's methods were finished. He felt that the German seamen detested this mode of warfare, into which they had been driven.

PREMIER'S TRIBUTE TO LATE GENERAL MAUDE.

COMMONS VOTE A GRANT TO LADY MAUDE.

LONDON, March 4th.

In voting that a grant of £25,000 be made to Lady Maude, the Premier, in the House of Commons, said the services which the late General Maude had rendered to the Empire in Mesopotamia were distinguished by far-reaching and permanent effects. He found British prestige at a very much low ebb in that quarter of the globe, where prestige counted very much. The Premier recalled the evacuation of Gallipoli, the surrender of Kut, and the defence of the Suez Canal against an inferior Turkish army, and said this tale of humiliation spread through every banner in the East and grew like a tree. Before it rippled into irreparable mischief for the Empire, the genius of General Maude changed and restored the position.

General Maude's real greatness was displayed in the use he made of victory. He showed as much wisdom as an administrator as he showed skill in generalship. While ruling firmly he won the esteem and affection of the Arabs not only by the equity of his rule but by his intelligent sympathy. He died a victim to the inbred courtesy of a fine character. He visited the plague-stricken town at the invitation of its inhabitants, who were anxious to welcome him for his manly kindnesses, and, though he had forbidden his escort to eat or drink, he ran the risk himself rather than offend his hosts. There was cholera in the camp, and he died in a few days.

General Maude would always be remembered as one of the great figures of the war not only for his achievements but for his character. The Premier said he was certain that the whole course of the history of Mesopotamia would be changed for the better owing to General Maude's victory and rule—(Cheers)—and his name would always be cherished by Mesopotamians as that of the gentlest conqueror who ever entered the gates of Bagdad. General Maude died poor, and the least that the country which he served so well and for whose service he gave his life could do was to see that those he loved and who depended upon him should not in any way be left in poverty.

Mr. McKenna, in the absence of Mr. Asquith, seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY TRADE METHODS. EXHIBITION IN LONDON.

LONDON, March 4th.

The Foreign Samples Department of the Overseas Trade Department have opened a remarkable exhibition in London. There are over 15,000 samples of enemy goods which have been collected since the war with the object of showing the British manufacturer the exact nature of the enemy trade to other countries. The department have secured prices and terms of credit, the names of importers, and a vast quantity of very valuable information for the exhibition, and have just returned from a tour of Great Britain, also a visit to Canada, during which they were visited by 15,000 actual manufacturers.

The exhibition gives manufacturers every facility to make the closest study of the enemy trade, and they are allowed to remove them in order to personally inspect them and confer with their workmen.

An official of the Department said: "We hope to make the German business man sorry he ever embarked upon war."

The markets represented by the samples include practically every part of the Empire, also North Africa, China and Siam.

In forming the collection every assistance was received from the Consular officers and the Dominion and Colonial Governments.

Great efforts are being made keep the samples thoroughly up-to-date, and a large collection is now en route to England from the Dutch East Indies.

"TANK WEEK" IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 4th.

His Majesty the King has sent a message to Mr. Bonar Law on the opening of "Tank Week" as follows: "I should like to wish you every success in the great efforts being made throughout the country in connection with Business Week. I am confident that my people are willing to contribute now and in the future whatever money may be necessary to secure victory."

The Business men's week mentioned yesterday morning, started very auspiciously. Six tanks are working in London. Tremendous interest is centred in the City tank, which opened with a million pounds subscription from a London bank. The National Debt Commissioners subscribed £2,400,000 the shipping firms a million each, a Cardiff miller firm half a million, and several leading shopkeepers have promised at least a whole week's takings.

The suburban tanks are centres of liveliness, the Mayor, well-known writers, clerks, and entertainers generously encouraging contributions and dwelling on the feasibility of small subscriptions as much as big subscriptions.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA. ALLIED DIPLOMATS SUBJECTED TO INDIGNITIES.

LONDON, March 4th.

Telegrams from Petrograd show that the Allied diplomats were subjected to numerous indignities prior to their departure. They were detained for hours at the station, where their papers were minutely scrutinised. Several persons, including Allied officers, intending to accompany them, were obliged to remain behind the authorities maintaining that the train was strictly reserved for diplomats.

The Italian Ambassador was not allowed to leave, on the pretext that he had endeavoured to smuggle non-Embassy men among the Staff.

THE BRITISH ARMY.

HIGH TRIBUTE FROM FRANCE.

PARIS, March 4th.

The special correspondent of *Le Temps* at the front pays a high tribute to the British Army. He says: "Those who come in contact with its various contingents note the extraordinary moral of these troops which come from all parts of the world. The solidity of their defence, the confidence in their leaders, the comparative comfort of their quarters and the abundance and variety of food are equally important factors in this happy state of mind."

THE CANADIAN ELECTION RETURNS.

OTTAWA, March 4th.

The final election returns show that the Union Government received 158,222 civilian and 101,510 military votes more than the Opposition, the Government gaining a majority of 69 seats.

AN ITALIAN SENSATION.

LONDON, March 4th.

It is reported from Italy that there has been a sensational arrest of numerous prominent men, including millionaires connected with the silk industry, on a charge of supplying Swiss firms with silk valued at millions sterling, the silk being ultimately used for Zeppelins.

SENSATIONAL TRIAL AT ANTWERP.

AMSTERDAM, March 4th.

A sensational espionage trial has occurred in Antwerp and was concluded on February 21st.

There were 63 prisoners, and the Court sentenced eight to death, and many others to imprisonment with hard labour.

PRO-ALLY PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL.

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 4th.

Senor Rodrigues Alves, who was President from 1905 to 1906, has been re-elected President. He is strongly pro-ally.

THE UNREST IN IRELAND.

LONDON, March 4th.

Lord French has gone to County Clare.

THIRD ITALIAN WAR LOAN

ROME, March 4th.

The Third Loan has already reached five milliards lire, exceeding by two milliards the previous best.

Franco-Belgian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

AUSTRALIANS' SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE.

LONDON, March 4th.

Reuters' Correspondent at the British Headquarters, reporting on the repelling by the Australians of a raid, says: "During the raid there were a number of English-speaking calls for help. One, who from the Commander of the raid, who was ultimately found dead. When the position was restored, 25 enemy corpses were found hanging on the barbed wire. Our casualties were very slight."

Another smaller raid against the Australians utterly failed owing to the losses inflicted.

AUSTRALIANS ENTER ENEMY TRENCHES.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Australians entered trenches at Warnefont last night, killing at least 50 of the enemy and destroying several dugouts. They brought back eleven prisoners, and also successfully raided to the east of Messines and south of Holbeke, prisoners being taken in each case.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT TAKE PRISONERS.

Men of the Middlesex Regiment raided to the north of Passchendaele, taking several prisoners.

Our casualties in these raids were light. We entered the lines at other points without securing prisoners, as the garrisons had withdrawn.

We repulsed an attempted raid to the south of St. Quentin.

The enemy's artillery at dawn developed considerable activity in the Lens sector.

LATEST CABLES.

A RAID REPULED AND PRISONERS TAKEN.

LONDON, March 4th.

Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed a raid westward of Lens after sharp fighting in which we took prisoners and inflicted casualties. We also drove off raiders from St. Quentin.

EARLIER CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

UNSUCCESSFUL ENEMY RAIDS.

PARIS, March 4th.

A communiqué states:—There was lively artillery firing at night-time in the regions of Beaumont and Bezonvaux, also at Baudesart and east of Hargetzen, in Upper Alsace.

Following bombardments the enemy attempted several raids in the region of the Parroy Forest, and in the direction of Neuviller, in Lorraine, but our fire dispersed the assailants.

A lively engagement occurred in the region of Bures, in which the enemy was repulsed with appreciable losses.

The enemy was also unsuccessful in the direction of Veho, where we took prisoners.

The Near East.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

OPERATIONS IN PALESTINE. BRITISH ADVANCE THREE THOUSAND YARDS.

LONDON, March 4th.

An official message from Palestine states:—We advanced northwards to a maximum depth of three thousand yards on a frontage of twelve miles, astride and westward of the Jerusalem-Nablus Road. There was little opposition.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BOMB-DROPPING STATISTICS.

LONDON, March 4th.

The Press Bureau announce:—The enemy dropped during January in the day-time 291 bombs and at night-time 1,201 bombs in the area under British occupation in France, while the British (Naval and Military) and Australian Air Services dropped 6,000 bombs in the day-time and 1,763 bombs at night-time in enemy areas.

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

HONGKONG LEAGUE DIVISION II.

88th Company R.G.A. v. Royal Engineers Res., Navy ground, kick-off, 4.30 p.m. Referee: Mr. Loach.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE MEETING.

A meeting of the Hongkong Football League was held at Victoria Barracks, last night, Sergt. Cook, Middlesex Regt., presiding over a large attendance.

The principal business was to consider a protest from the 88th Company R.G.A. with reference to the Royal Engineers Reserves playing Sapper Gordon, highest first division player, in the match 88th Company R.G.A. v. R.E. Reserves on the 18th February. The meeting upheld the Hon. Secretary's provisional sanction, and Sapper Gordon was reinstated in the second division.

It was arranged that a football match should be played on Easter Monday in aid of Charity, but details were left until a later date. Dates were fixed for the postponed fixtures, and before the meeting closed an expression of sympathy was passed with the South China Athletic Football Team, who had some of their players injured in the recent catastrophe at the Happy Valley.

ARMY TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

The draw for the "Novices" competition, open to Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Garrison, from which winners at the last tournament are barred, is as under:—

First round to be played off by 12th March. Cpl. Turner, R.G.A. v. Sgt. Pearce, A.S.C.; L/Cpl. Perry, Mx. v. Cpl. Howard, Mx.; Sgt. Barker, R.G.A. v. Pte. Botten, A.O.C.; Cpl. Johns, R.E. v. L/Cpl. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Br. Drummond, R.G.A. v. Br. Drummond, R.G.A. v. Pte. Ambrose, Mx. v. Cpl. Durose, R.E.; L/Cpl. Glenney, A.S.C. v. Sgt. McGregor, R.E.; Sgt. Lyth, A.S.C. v. Sgt. Edgeler, R.G.A.; Sgt. Wain, A.O.C. v. Cpl. Adams, Mx.; Sgt. Houghton, A.O.C. v. Sgt. Martin, R.G.A.; Cpl. Knight, R.G.A. v. L/Cpl. Gleeson, A.S.C.; L/Cpl. Lawrence, R.A.M.C. v. Br. Page, R.G.A.; L/Cpl. Kirby, R.A.M.C. v. Sgt. Sherwood, R.E.; Sgt. Davis, R.A. v. Sgt. Talford, R.G.A.; L/Cpl. Bach, Mx. v. Br. Kirkham, R.G.A.; L/Cpl. Tobbitt, Mx. v. Br. Gorman, R.G.A.; Cpl. Morse, Mx. v. Sgt. Gillard, R.A.; L/Cpl. Towler, Mx. v. Br. Aborne, R.G.A.; Sgt. Pitt, R.A.M.C. v. Cpl. Wain, R.G.A.; Cpl. M.S. Reakes, R.E. v. Pte. Knight, A.S.C.; L/Cpl. Pascali, R.E. v. Cpl. Woodman, R.A.M.C.; Cpl. Rolfe, Mx. v. Sgt. Johns, R.E.; Pte. Ross, Mx. v. Cpl. Heath, R.E.; L/Cpl. Sowell, Mx. v. Spr. Cruickshanks, R.E.; C. S. M. Youngman, R.G.A. v. Master Gunner May, R.G.A.; Gr. Cooper, R.G.A. v. Drummer Coan, Mx.; L/Cpl. McKenzie, Mx. v. Pte. Sargeant, Mx.; Sgt. Taylor, R.A.M.C. v. Pte. Harker, Mx.; Sgt. Thayer, R.A.M.C. v. Sgt. McKendrie, R.A.M.C.; Sgt. Parker, Mx. v. Br. Turner, R.G.A.; Pte. Graham, Mx. v. Spr. Reakes, R.E.; Spr. Horrip, R.E. v. L/Cpl. Butterfield, Mx.

The Services Entertainment Fund is kindly providing the first two prizes.

EPIDEMIC CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

HOW THE DISEASE IS TRANSMITTED.

In view of the local epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis the following article from a recent issue of the *British Medical Journal*, showing that the risk of infection is very small, will be read with interest:—

Since early in the year 1916 we have been living through a scattered epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis, and a great deal of bacteriological and epidemiological work on the organism causing the disease and its modes of transmission has been published since that date. Among the most recent of these publications is a collection of *Further Reports on Cerebro-Spinal Fever*, issued by the Local Government Board in continuation of its report of 1916. In a preliminary memorandum by the Board's medical officer, Sir Arthur Newsholme, it is pointed out that the meningococcus is a delicate organism incapable of growth or survival at a temperature much below that of the human body. Its habitat is the human nasopharynx, where it may grow readily. It is transmitted from person to person in droplets, expelled by forcible expiration from the carrier and inhaled by those in his proximity. It may also be conveyed from mouth to mouth either by direct contact, or, possibly, by some article infected by the mouth of the carrier. There is no evidence of more indirect or more distant modes of transmission.

It must be fully recognized that the meningococcus is a common inhabitant of the nasopharynx, and that its presence there rarely leads to the development of meningitis. Generally it behaves as a harmless saprophyte in non-epidemic periods. Thus Mayer and his colleagues found 156 meningococci carriers among 9,111 soldiers at Munich in 1910, an epidemic-free period; none of these carriers developed meningitis. The significance of these figures will be appreciated better when it is realized that the meningococcus does not usually persist in the nasopharynx of a carrier for more than two or three weeks; so that a large proportion of the population must harbour the organism at one time or another, even during a non-epidemic season. At the present time the proportion of carriers in England is probably much higher than it was at Munich in 1910. Between March 1915, and February, 1917, 1,881 persons believed not to have been in contact with cases of cerebro-spinal fever were examined by bacteriologists working for the Board, and 253 of them (13.5 per cent.) were found to be meningococci carriers. In the three years 1912-14 there were about 300 cases of the disease in England and Wales per annum; the figure rose to 3,703 in 1915; it was 2,199 in 1916, and there were over 1,000 cases among civilians alone during the first six months of 1917. Nearly four-fifths of the cases among civilians occurred at ages under 15, and about 60 per cent. of all the cases arise in the months of March, April, and May.

Not much has been ascertained as to the conditions under which epidemics of the disease arise; there is some resemblance here between influenza, cerebro-spinal fever, and other catarrhal respiratory affections. In fact, it may be generally stated, from the point of view of the epidemiologist, that cerebro-spinal fever is one of a group of catarrhal diseases, and that it commonly becomes prevalent at or a little after the season of the year and under climatic or other conditions which favour excessive prevalence of influenza, bronchitis, and pneumonia. Its response to these influences, however, is erratic; it is not associated with dry years, or a series of dry years.

When considering the infectivity of the disease we are on surer ground. The risk of infection from a case of cerebro-spinal fever is small, even very small; in the vast majority of instances only one case occurs in an invaded household or military hutment, and sometimes only one case in an invaded locality. Thus among 2,243 cases among civilians in 1916, multiple cases occurred in 150 only of the invaded households. It is exceptional for the infection of a case of cerebro-spinal fever to be ascribable to any known case of cerebro-spinal fever; clearly it must have picked up the meningococcus from some carrier, but as the percentage of healthy carriers is as high as 13.5 among members of the general population in populous areas who have apparently had no opportunity of contact with a case of the disease, it seems highly probable that the carriers are more important than the cases in the causation of epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis. Further, it is pointed out that the sporadic habit of the disease, in point of both time and place, persists in epidemic times. The case rate is not deducible from the carrier rate, and the occurrence of an epidemic cannot be satisfactorily explained as due to an increase in the carrier rate. Evidence is brought forward by five of the contributors to this volume of Reports to show that any microbe possessing the admitted morphological and cultural characters of the meningococcus should be regarded as potentially pathogenic; appeal to agglutination reactions here is held to be superfluous, though differences in these serological reactions may be regarded as having importance in directing the treatment of cerebro-spinal fever by serum therapy. Maj. Gordon, as is well known, does not accept this view as to the value of agglutination reactions, and much weight must be given to his opinion.

The further consideration of the healthy meningococci carriers who are mainly responsible for the occurrence of cases of the disease suggests certain possibilities, with regard to its spread. Clearly the carriers are too many to be controlled or quarantined in the ordinary conditions of life. The carrier condition may be of benefit to the individual as a means of acquiring partial immunity to the disease, but it is clearly harmful to the public as increasing the circulation of

SCHOOL HISTORIES.

NEED OF EARLY REVISION.

Revision of school histories in the United States, Canada and Great Britain, for the purpose of bringing about a better mutual understanding among the Anglo-Saxon peoples, is the object of a movement now actively under way in Montreal under the auspices of the *Fortnightly Club*. The aim of the authors of the plan was explained by Mr. J. Armistage Ewing, K.C., who, with Mr. J. Penrose Anglin, had been appointed by the club to outline a course of action.

"In all three Anglo-Saxon countries," said Mr. Ewing, "it has been the custom to incorporate in school histories passages so worded as to give glory to the writer's own nation, without much regard to the real facts. This custom has tended to create and perpetuate antagonisms."

It is our desire that school histories set before Anglo-Saxon youth everywhere the truth about our international relations in the past, whether the truth be to the credit of the particular nation or to its discredit. We believe that the countries are big enough to stand the truth. Yet we would have the truth softened by a proper regard for the human element in history, which has always been neglected by historians. It was disregard of this human element that caused the present war.

"We had this plan under way even before the war, but when hostilities began, the United States, where we hoped to gain support, was occupied with her problems connected with Germany, and we decided it was not an opportune time for our purposes. Recently, however, Major Putnam, of the United States Army, in an address before the Canadian Club in London, touched on this very subject, and in talking with him after his lecture, Mr. Anglin and I found that work was being actively carried on in the United States along the same lines we were planning to follow. Consequently we have renewed our activity here, and are working in co-operation with the Americans."

"We consider this very fortunate, as it seems to us now that the time is opportune for establishing closer relations among our countries, through the coming generation. The need of a better understanding everybody will recognize. I remember that as a boy I was antagonistic to the 'Yanks,' largely because one of my chums was an American boy, and we were forever fighting over which was the better country, England or the United States. Our prejudices had been fostered by our school histories."

HISTORIANS' ERRORS.

It was the same disregard of the human element I have mentioned that brought about the Civil War, and the tension during that war between England and the North; and that tension has been fostered by the historians. I believe that a large majority of Americans to-day are unaware that England was guilty of no breach of international law in the Alabama case, though she was condemned to pay damages as a result of it. As a matter of fact, the point of law never was submitted to the tribunals. The aristocracy of England was in sympathy with the aristocracy of the South, but in permitting the building and fitting out of the Alabama in England and her departure from an English port, the British Government was only doing what the United States as a neutral was doing when she sold aeroplanes to the Allies.

There is the same misunderstanding in all three countries—the fault of the historians. Just now we are intending to concentrate our efforts on correcting those faults in the United States and Canada. I prefer not to say any more, until we have gone further, than that we shall try to induce the educational authorities in both countries to appoint an international board of experts, perhaps from the universities, to direct the textbook revision on both sides of the border, in co-operation.

"We look upon the work as of the greatest importance to the future of our countries. We do not know how close our alliance is going to be, but there is a big future for the English-speaking peoples, and we expect that it will be promoted by the better acquaintance revision of school histories should help to bring about."

meningococcus and facilitating the infection of susceptible persons. Again, some such susceptible persons may be a danger to others by raising the virulence of the meningococcus to epidemic pitch, and before themselves falling victims to the disease may transmit these more dangerous organisms to other persons. Alternatively, epidemics of the disease may be due to the temporary enhancement of the virulence of endemic strains of meningococci by some conditions still unknown to us. The view that a more virulent strain may have been introduced into this country from Canada early in 1915 is said to be possibly correct, but unproven; some military cases of cerebro-spinal fever had occurred in this country before this importation could have taken effect. Can anything be done to lessen the prevalence of cerebro-spinal fever in the future? The infecting agent, as has been stated above, has its habitat in the nasopharynx. It is transmitted from one person to another by such actions as coughing or sneezing without the careful use of the handkerchief, or, more directly, from mouth to mouth, as in kissing. Sir Arthur Newsholme looks forward to the time when a higher standard of conduct in regard to the spread of all such catarrhal infections will become the rule in social intercourse. Everyone will agree with him that the practice of coughing and sneezing broadcast, now unalloyably so common, should be put a stop to in the interest of the public health. As for the prohibition of the more direct method of infection, even the more susceptible of schoolboys would think twice before making so unbecomingly a suggestion between Christmas and the New Year.

A Reports to the Local Government Board on Public Health and Medical Subjects, New series, No. 114, Pp. xiv+214. H.M. Stationery Office, London, 1917. Price 4s. net.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

WAR AIMS OF BRITAIN AND THE ALLIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S FIRM DECLARATION.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, January 8th.

The Prime Minister's speech on British war aims, re-stating in clear and unequivocal terms what we are fighting for, has given great satisfaction not only here but among our Allies and neutrals. In France it evoked the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Lloyd George has won the heart of every Frenchman from the Premier to the humblest *poilu* by declaring, "We mean to stand by French democracy to the death in the demand which they make for a reconsideration of the great wrong of 1871, when, without regard to the wishes of the population, two French provinces were torn from the side of France and incorporated in the German Empire." In making this momentous announcement Mr. Lloyd George was responsible for a dramatic incident. It happened that M. Albert Thomas, the ex-French Minister of Munitions, a prominent French Labour and Socialist leader, was among the audience. When he referred to the lost Provinces he turned towards M. Thomas, who was quite overcome by his emotion, especially as the meeting raised a ringing cheer.

OBJECT OF THE SPEECH.

The speech, delivered before Trade Union delegates in London, made a profound impression upon the representatives of Labour, including even extremists who are not averse to a parchment peace. It is impossible for these or any other peace-mongers in the country to say now, in face of the Prime Minister's declaration, that our war aims are chimerical, that we are fighting for Imperialism, aggrandisement, or any of the other reasons invented by friends of the enemy to hamper the Government. Our aims are not less honest or less pure and disinterested than when we drew the sword in defence of the "public law of Europe"—a phrase dear to the heart of Mr. Asquith, and now aptly used by his successor. Germany must relinquish her spoils in Belgium and make full reparation for the wrongs perpetrated there; and there must be restoration of full independence to the small nations. The reference to Russia was, in effect, a warning to the people of that country that peace talk with the Hun is but the preliminary to handing over the Baltic Provinces and setting a seal to Russia's political and economic doom as a free country.

GERMAN MILITARISM.

But the vitally interesting and important point was, after all, the Minister's direct reference to our principal enemy—that Britain does not, as the German Chancellor and the German Press constantly assert, desire the destruction of the German people; but that we do desire, and fully intend, to destroy "German militarism," the system which brought about the war, and will, unless disposed of effectually, breed future wars. Of course it is impossible for us or any outside influence to dictate to the Germans what sort of political constitution they shall live under; but it is of the utmost importance that they should know what it is that blocks the way to permanent peace. The Premier's speech, therefore, was in effect an appeal to the masses of Germany over the heads of the German Government.

It remains to be seen what result the speech will have in Germany. Will the people, now that they are plainly told of the issues upon which we are prepared to conclude peace, continue to bolster up the post-German war aims, or will they, for generation of territory and world-power, and have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing since the war began? Already the speech is proving an apple of discord among the German Socialists. For the rest, we in England are well content to note a chorus of approval as regards our declared war-aims in all parts of the world. The clear statement of what we are fighting for has drawn all classes and parties together in this country as in the early days of the war. It has resulted in a feeling of renewed confidence in our strength to bear all the heavy sacrifices that will be necessary to enable us to win, and secure the freedom of future generations from military aggression.

OUR GERMAN BROTHERS.

At the Labour Conference on War Aims, referred to in last week's letter, one of the loudest speakers kept alluding (as they usually do) to "our German brothers." It makes one wonder whether these people are political ostriches wilfully burying their heads in sand-heaps of sterile humanitarianism. Enough, surely, has been published to show what the enemy is capable of doing—in a fraternal way, of course!

Recently Sir Arthur Conan Doyle won approval and perturbed the Facilitator by relating in the *Times*, in the language of an officer who had suffered at the hands of the Huns as a prisoner of war, what the German brothers of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald are capable of. Among other things this officer, and many more like him, although wounded, were taken by train for two days without any attention or food. On arrival at the station of their destination they were assembled, and then kicked in German fashion through the streets to the prison camp.

This week information reaches me that eye-witnesses of yet another form of outrage, typically Hunnish, are in London. They are men who were captured off fishing smacks and taken to Sennelager. The Germans charged them without a title of evidence of being "mine layers," and punished them without trial. The punishment took the form of shaving the hair and beard off one side of the head and face, and exposing the unfortunate Englishmen in that condition to the ridicule of the German populace. Nothing so wantonly barbarous has been done in war since the Chinese seized a British Admiral and exhibited him in a cage. The retribution for that offence was the sinking of the Imperial Palace at Peking.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

FRANCE'S BOLD REPLY.

PREMIER'S STIRRING SPEECH.

France's reply to Germany's alternate threats and peace-baiters is clear indeed. In one and the same sitting of the Chamber it was announced that France had subscribed over £200,000,000 in actual new money to the third war loan, and it was decided to call up the recruits of the 1919 contingent, and finally consent was given to the tremendous sacrifice of sending back to the front for work on defensive organisations during January and February men of the 1890 and 1891 contingents, that is men of over 47, and 48, who had been brought back to the fields for agricultural labour. Could Kühnmann, Czernin, and the Bolsheviks have asked for a clearer answer from France? The French Parliament's decision had been resolute and precise, and the whole debate showed clear-cut determination. The Under-Secretary of State for Military Strength first gave the note of the proceedings:—

"Germany has called up all her 1918 contingent, the bulk of her 1919 contingent, and is calling up that of 1920. She is now preparing a decisive blow upon our front, but she will not get through. We are on the eve of formidable operations like those of Verdun. While such a menace hangs over the country the Government cannot think of reducing its man-power at the front."

MORE MEN FOR THE COLOURS.

Then M. Clemenceau struck the same note still more unflinchingly:

"An hon. member, speaking of fathers and mothers who have sons at the front, expressed a feeling which I share to the full. We have been fighting for three years, and what we want is victory for France. For that we must go on fighting. I ask the House to supply me with means for that end. The Commander-in-Chief has asked for a certain number of workers at the front for indispensable preparations. I do not think it will be necessary to call back men of the 1899 contingent, but we must call those of 1890 and 1891 for two months. If anyone knows of any other resources we can tap, let him speak out. I look the facts in the face, and I make no theories. You ask me to wait until certain Allies supply their similar share, but I have no time to wait. The Russian people has deserted its duty towards the Alliance. I cannot help that, but I have to face the consequences of that desertion. German divisions, of which I do not state the number, are being poured into our front from the Russian front. Will you then deny me the few extra hundred men I ask for? The question has been studied under every aspect. I made up my mind to tell the House the extra truth. If we could do without the help of the older agricultural contingent, you may imagine I should be as delighted as you. I was brought up among the peasants; I know their devotion, their courage, and their high-mindedness in the villages of my own Vendée. I have seen peasants who had lost four boys at the war, have a fifth a prisoner, and a sixth at the front. They ask me with tears in their eyes. Will it all end in 'we hope'? When I said 'Yes,' they said: 'Then we will give everything.' It would be an insult to such peasants to suppose that they will grudge us the six or seven weeks of labour which we ask of them. Either you will grant the supply of labour which is needed, or the work which General Headquarters requires at the front will not be carried out. That would be so heavy a responsibility that no one among you would dare assume it. There are 1,200,000 mobilised men in the country behind the front. Of course, they are doing their duty as well as those at the front. I know that, but the man-power question affects the whole country behind the front as well as at the front. According to the needs of the moment, if the front wants men from the workshops, these must go back to the front, and they will be the first to ask to do so. I say no more."

There was frank fearlessness in the old Patriot's facing of facts in this short, resolute speech that wrung the whole House. The result of the vote was: 425 for confidence to 72 Socialists against. The 1919 contingent, according to the bill voted, will be called up for medical examination at once, and will be called to the colours in due course. The 1918 contingent was called to the colours in April last, and is now in depots near the front. *Daily Telegraph.*

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NETTLES & COTTON.

Whatever one may say about the German in industry, they are certainly tried. As soon as they were deprived of imports of cotton owing to the British command of the sea, they set out to obtain something within their own borders which would serve as a raw material for textiles. According to the *Board of Trade Journal*, the official organ of the Board of Trade, they found that stinging nettle fibre answered in some respects the same purpose as cotton fibre. Mixed with wool, or a bit of each texture hardly distinguishable from expensive woollen material, much cheaper and easy to dye, is said to be producible. This stinging nettle fibre has been used to make linings for caps, coats, etc., and Army shirts and towels.

As regards preparation of the nettle stalk for spinning, it is stated that a process, devised by a Dr. Richter, of Vienna University, for stripping and roasting the stems, yields a fibre which should take the place of flax, hemp, and cotton. This process is being worked in factories in Bavaria, Silesia, and Alsace.

The hope of the Central Empires is, of course, to make themselves independent of American cotton; but a curious fact has to be noted in connection with the scheme, namely that as soon as the nettle is cultivated as a crop it either loses its power of production by seed or it produces such a weak stem that it becomes of very little use for fibre.—H.B.

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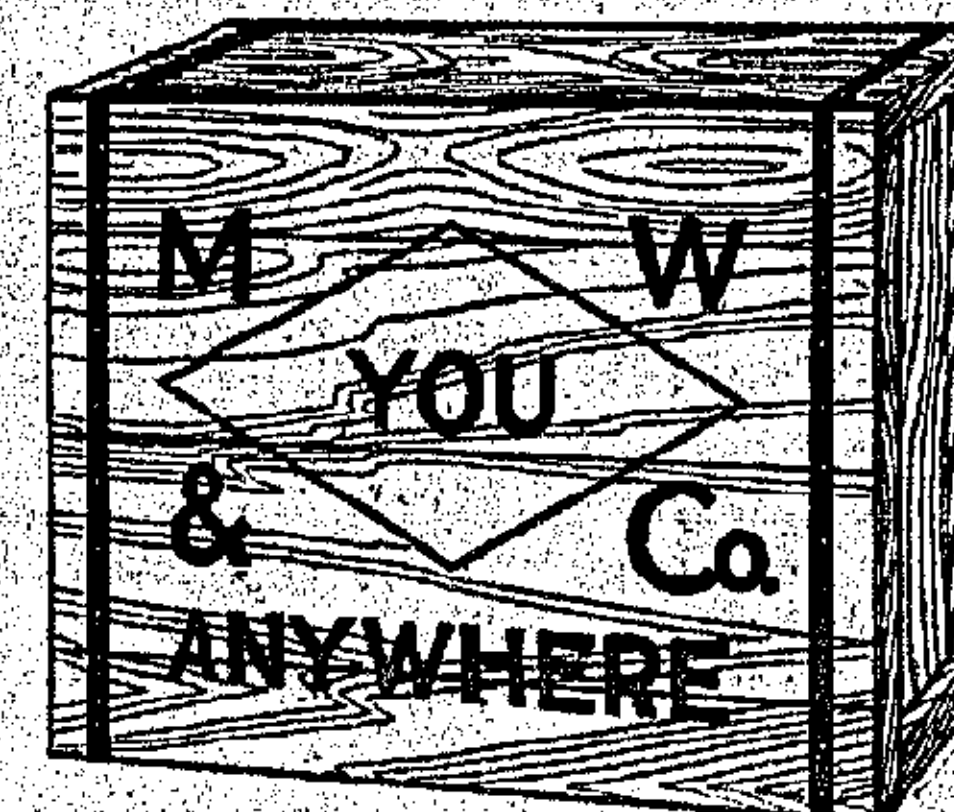
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